

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

May 22, 2001

LB 448, 461

body, I rise in support of the amendment which was LB 448, and I would like to explain, in addition to Senator Beutler's very thorough and informed explanation of the bill and the process, why we're coming at Final Reading nearly the end of the session to even make this motion, and the reason for that is because of the cooperation of the supporters of this legislation in working with some of the concerns with the EPA and the DEQ. As Senator Beutler said, this bill was introduced as a previous bill, and then introduced again last year, and now it's LB 448, and all through that time frame Bob Hallstrom, in particular, has been going back and forth and redrafting, getting information, getting feedback from the EPA, getting feedback from DEQ, and for him it probably has seemed like an exercise in patience. He's been very good to work with and has done redraft after redraft. So it's through no fault of Senator Beutler or of Mr. Hallstrom, but I probably am the one to blame if blame is to be given for it taking this long in getting to this point. But at this point, as Senator Beutler has characterized it, I believe that it satisfies all of the requirements of our state DEQ and of the federal EPA and accomplishes what we want to accomplish in being able to look at liability and putting this land back into use and still afford access to that land in the event that additional testing or additional remediation may need to be done in the future. So I support the...the amendment; thank Senator Aguilar for allowing it to be done on his bill which he's had a real education on in terms of priority bill and all the things that have been done with and to his legislation. That is part of the process and I appreciate his cooperation and Senator Beutler and everyone else who, including the committee, has worked on this bill. I do support it; would encourage the body to bring the bill back from Final to attach the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I have a few questions. You're referring to this amendment as the LB 448. Are we to assume that it is LB 448 as amended by committee amendment, AM1476?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.